

Requirement of Software Professionals

**†304. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have made any assessment of the requirement of large number of software professionals in the ensuing years, keeping in view the development of information technology;
- (b) if so, the estimated number of such professionals required by the year 2008;
- (c) whether any assessment about the availability of at least 12th passed youths to meet the above requirement has also been made; and
- (d) the total number of 12th passed youths becoming available in the country every year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per an assessment made by the software industry association, a requirement of 22 lakh IT professionals—11 lakh for the hard core IT sector and another 11 lakh for the IT enabled services by the year 2008 has been estimated.

(c) and (d) A Task Force on Human Resource Development (HRD) in Information Technology (IT) under the Chairmanship of Human Resource Development Minister was constituted to look into the issue of supply of quality manpower for the IT sector. As per Interim Report of the Task Force, the existing intake capacity and trends towards increase in intake capacity in our educational institutions would adequately meet the projected requirement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.